

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

NEA-05 SR-02 ORM-01 IO-03 H-01 L-03 /025 W

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R 211630Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4080

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS UR IS PFOR SREF (PANOV, VALERIY)

SUBJECT: SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION: VALERIY PANOV

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED NOV 20 TELEGRAM FROM CONGRESSMAN JOSHUA EILBERG REQUESTING URGENT EMBASSY INTERVENTION IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET EXIT VISA APPLICATION OF FORMER KIROV BALLET DANCERS VALERIY PANOV AND WIFE. TELEGRAM STATES PANOVS "ARE BEING NEEDLESSLY PERSECUTED FOR NO CRIME EXCEPT THEIR DESIRE EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL."

2. SUGGEST DEPT PASS FOLLOWING REPLY TO EILBERG IN NAME OF CHARGE. LANGUAGE IS FUNDAMENTALLY THAT DEVELOPED BY DEPT AND EMBASSY FOR REPLIES TO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES IN ISRAELI CASES:

A. WE ARE AWARE PANOVS' CASE AND DEEPLY SYMPATHIZE WITH PLIGHT SOVIET CITIZENS DENIED FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT EMIGRATE. USG FULLY SUPPORTS ART. 13 OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION STATING THAT "EVERYONE HAS RIGHT LEAVE ANY COUNTRY" INCLUDING HIS OWN," AND WE HAVE FREQUENTLY COMMUNICATED THIS POSITION TO SOVIET GOVT AND IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. MOREOVER, SENIOR USG OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED TO SOVIET COUNTERPARTS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS DEEP INTEREST OUR ADMINISTRATION, CONGRESS AND PUBLIC IN QUESTION SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL.

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B. SINCE PANOVS NOT APPLYING FOR EMIGRATION TO US,

EMBASSY IN FORMAL SENSE HAS NO STANDING TO INTERVENE.
REPRESENTATIONS WOULD MOST LIKELY BE REJECTED AS INAPPRO-
PRIATE BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES.

C. AS CONGRESSMAN NO DOUBT AWARE, EMBASSY AND DEPT
ACTIVELY PURSUING LARGE NUMBER CASES (INCLUDING SIGNFI-
CANT PROPORTION OF SOVIET JEWS) OF PERSONS SEEKING
REUNIFICATION WITH RELATIVES IN US. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY
THESE PERSONS HAVE ALSO BEEN DENIED EXIT PERMISSION. FROM
EXPERIENCE PROCESSING SUCH CASES, EMBASSY CAN ONLY RECOMMEND
COURAGEOUS PERSISTENCE IN SKUH EXIT VISA CASES, FOR MANY
CASES HAVE BEEN RESOLVED ONLY AFTER LENGTHY PERSEVERANCE.
DEPT MAY ALSO POINT OUT THAT WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED
THAT PANOVS RECENTLY HAD REAPPLICATION ACCEPTED BY LENINGRAD
OVIR, WHICH MAY BE HOPEFUL SIGN.

D. CONGRESSMAN MAY WISH INFORM SOVIET AMBASSADOR WASHINGTON
OF HIS DEEP INTEREST THIS CASE.
EXEMPT
DUBS

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